THE DOCTOR,

A Medical and Philosophical Penny Magazine.

A WISE PHYSICIAN, SKILL'D OUR WOUNDS TO HEAL,
IS MORE THAN ARMIES TO THE PUBLIC WEAL.—*Pope's Homer.*

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ARUM MACULATUM. COMMON ARUM, OR WAKE ROBIN.

CLASS, GYNANDRIA. ORDER, POLYANDRIA.

THE root is perennial, tuberous, about the size of the thumb, sending off many long simple fibres; the leaves are commonly three or four, growing from each root; these are arrow-shaped, of a deep green or purplish colour, beset with many veins and dark spots, and stand upon long grooved and somewhat triangularly shaped foot-stalks; the flower-stalk is very short and channelled; the calyx is a sheath of one leaf, large oval nerved, and

enclosing the spadix, which is round, club-shaped, fleshy, above of a purple colour, below whitish, standing in the centre of the sheath, and supporting the parts necessary to fructification: on tracing it towards the base we first discover the nectaries, or several oval corpuscles which are terminated by long tapering points; next to these are placed the antheræ, which are quadrangular, united, and of a purple colour; under these we find again more nectaries, and lastly the germina, which are very numerous, round, without styles, and crowned with small bearded stigmata. This curious species of inflorescence displays itself early in spring, but the berries do not ripen till late in the summer, when they appear in naked clusters, of a bright scarlet colour, making a conspicuous appearance under the hedges, where they commonly grow. (Arum, by a modern botanist, is arranged under the class Monœcia.)

The root is the medicinal part of the plant, which in a recent and lactescent state is extremely acrimonious, and upon being chewed excites an intolerable sensation of burning and pricking in the tongue, which continues for several hours; when cut in slices and applied to the skin, it has been known to produce blisters. This acrimony however is gradually lost by drying, and may be so far dissipated by the application of heat as to leave the root a bland farinaceous aliment;* its medical efficacy therefore resides wholly in the active volatile matter, and consequently the powdered root must lose much of its power on being long kept, a circumstance which very properly caused the omission of the Pulvis ari Compositus, in the last edition of our Pharmacopœia. Lewis says, "The fresh and moderately dried roots were digested in water, in wine, in proof spirit, and in rectified spirit, with and without heat: the liquors received no colour, and little or no taste. In distillation neither spirit nor water brought over any sensible impregnation from the arum. The root nevertheless loses in these operations almost the whole of its pungency. The qualities of this root are thus enumerated by Bergius:—"Virtus *recent, siccatæ:* stimulans, aperiens, incidens, diuretica; *recentis* vehementissima; *annosæ* nutriens." Dr. Cullen seems to consider it as a general stimulant, not only exciting the activity of the digestive powers, where they happen to be languid, but stimulating the whole system; in proof of this, he observes, that it has been useful in intermittent fevers. Arum, by ancient writers, is much commended, both as an external and as an internal remedy, and is said that, "Ratione particularum tenuium et volatilium mucum viscidum et spissum ventriculi et intestinorum parietibus adhærentem potenter incidit, attenuat, atque, resolvit;" and was prescribed in all that numerous class of diseases formerly supposed to proceed a succorem lentore. Bergius considers it useful in colluvies pituitosa, anorexia, cephalæa sympatica,† asthma humorale, cachexia, febris intermittens. Arum is certainly a very powerful stimulant, and by promoting the secretions may be advantageously employed in cachectic and chlorotic cases, in rheumatic affections, and in various other complaints of phlegmatic and torpid constitutions; but more especially in a weakened or relaxed state of the stomach, occasioned by the prevalence of viscid mucus. If this root is given in powder, great care should be taken that it be young and newly dried, when it may be used in the dose of a scruple or more twice a day; but in rheumatisms and other disorders, requiring the full effects of this medicine, the root should be given in a recent state, and to cover the insupportable pungency it discovers on the tongue, Dr. Lewis advises us to administer it in the form of emulsion, with gum arabic and spermaceti, increasing the dose from ten grains to upwards of a scruple, three or four times a day; in this way "it generally occasioned a sensation of slight warmth about the stomach, and afterwards in the remoter parts manifestly promoted perspiration, and frequently produced a plentiful sweat. Several obstinate rheumatic pains were removed by this medicine, which is therefore recommended to further trial."

* In this state it has been made into a wholesome bread. It has also been prepared as starch. The root, dried and powdered, is used by the French to wash the skin with, and is sold at a high price, under the name of *Cypress Powder*. It is undoubtedly a good and innocent cosmetic. These roots are said to possess a saponaceous quality, and have been used in washing linen, to supply the place of soap.

† Bergius speaks highly of the efficacy of arum in these headachs, which were of the most violent kind, and resisted all the means he employed, till he used the powder of this root, which never failed to relieve them.

SOME OF THE PROPERTIES OF RIVER-WATER.

(*Concluded from p.* 278.)

The principal saline contents of the Thames water are, sulphate of lime, carbonate of magnesia, and muriate of soda, but in very small proportions, not exceeding three grains in the pint. The quantity of animal and vegetable exuviæ held in suspension, and derived from the common sewers and other channels of impurity, which are perpetually emptying themselves into the river, render it indeed unfit for many of the nicer domestic purposes. All impurities may be removed by mere filtration, and water thus purified is rendered very palatable and wholesome, and fitted for the nicer purposes in the arts. This great and public advantage is however being removed by the water companies, and on examination, a considerable contrast will be found in the improvement in the water supplied to the metropolis by the improved mode of filtration which they have introduced into practice. The water with which the inhabitants of Southwark are supplied contains much animal and vegetable exuviæ, and is undoubtedly very unfitted for the purposes of domestic economy, without undergoing the process of filtration.

The water supplied by the New River Company is the best in the metropolis; its solid contents, says Mr Booth, "is found to resemble in quantity those of the Thames, but it contains much less animal and vegetable matter." The water of the Thames is excellently fitted for the sea store, but here it is said to undergo a remarkable change. No water carried to sea becomes putrid sooner than that of the Thames.

When a cask is opened, after being kept a month or two, a quantity of inflammable air escapes, and the water is so black and offensive as scarcely to be borne. Upon racking it off into large vessels (oil-jars are commonly used for this purpose), and exposing it to the air, it gradually deposits a quantity of black slimy mud, becomes clear as crystal, and remarkably sweet and palatable. The river Trent runs over a strata of carbonate of lime, and contains much of this salt in solution, a circumstance which appears favourable to the perfection of ale, for which Burton and many parts of Nottinghamshire are so justly celebrated. The Seine has a high reputation in France, and appears to be a river of great purity.

It might be expected that, as with the Thames, any river which passes a large town, and receives its impurities, and is used by the numerous dyers, tanners, hatters, and other manufacturers, who crowd to its banks for the convenience of the water, it should thereby acquire a foulness perceptible to chemical examination for a consi-

derable distance below the town; but the most accurate examination proves that, where the stream is at all considerable, these kinds of impurities have no influence in permanently altering the quality of the water, and as they are only suspended, that mere rest will restore the water to its original purity.

THE HYPOCHONDRIAC.

"I was one morning standing at my door pondering the probabilities of wet or fine for the day; when I was saluted in the following manner:—'Oh, Docta, Docta, com-a, and see-a a Massa! Com-a! Him so gashly—him so ill—ver dam bad—him say so—Oh, lorra-lorra-lorra! Come see-a a Massa—him ver orrid!'

"'Why, what on earth is the matter with you, you sable, eh? Why can't you speak slower, and tell me plainly what's the matter?' said I impatiently, for he seemed inclined to gabble on in that strain for some minutes longer. '*What's* the matter with your master, sirrah, eh?' I inquired, jerking his striped morning jacket.

"'Oh, Docta! Docta! com-a—Massa ver bad! Him say so!—Him head turned! Him head turned!'

"'Him *what*, sirrah?' said I, in amazement.

"'Him *head turned*, Docta—him head turned,' replied the man, slapping his fingers against his forehead.

"'Oh, I see how it is, I see; ah, yes,' I replied, pointing to my forehead in turn, wishing him to see that I understood him to say his master had been seized with a fit of insanity.

"'Iss, iss, Docta—him Massa *head turned*—him head turned! Dam bad!'

"'Where is Mr. N——, Nambo, eh?'

"'Him lying all 'long in him bed, Massa—him dam bad. But him 'tickler quiet—him head turned'—

"Why, Nambo, what makes *you* say your master's head's turned, eh? What d'ye mean, sir?'

"'Him, Massa, self say so—him did—him head turned. D—m!' I felt as much at a loss as ever; it was so odd for a gentleman to acknowledge to his negro servant that his *head was turned*.

"'Ah! he's gone *mad*, you mean, eh?—is that it? Hem! *Mad*—is it so?' said I, pointing, with a wink, to my forehead.

"No, no, Docta—him head turned!—him *head*,' replied Nambo; and raising both his hands to his head, he seemed trying to twist it round! I could make nothing of his gesticulations, so I dismissed him, telling him to take word, that I should make his master's my first call. I may as well say, that I was on terms of friendly familiarity with Mr. N——, and puzzled myself all the way I went, with attempting to conjecture what *new* crotchet he had taken into his odd, and latterly, I began to suspect, half-addled head. He had never disclosed symptoms of what is generally understood by the word hypochondriasis; but I often thought there was not a likelier subject in the world for it. At length I found myself knocking at my friend's door, fully prepared for some specimen of amusing eccentricity—for the thought never crossed my mind, that he might be really ill. Nambo instantly answered my summons, and, in a twinkling, conducted me to his master's bed-room. It was partially darkened, but there was light enough for me to discern, that there was nothing unusual in his appearance. The bed was much tossed to be sure, as if with the restlessness of the recumbent, who lay on his back, with his head turned on one side, buried deep in the pillow, and his arms folded together outside the counterpane. His features certainly wore an air of exhaustion and dejection, and his eyes settled on me with an alarmed expression from the moment that he perceived my entrance.

"'Oh, dear Doctor!—Isn't this frightful!—Isn't it a dreadful piece of business?'

"'Frightful!—dreadful business!' I repeated with much surprise. '*What* is frightful? Are you ill—have you had an accident, eh?'

"'Ah, ah!—you may well ask that!' he replied; adding, after a pause, "it took place this morning,—about two hours ago!'

"'You speak in parables, Mr. N——! Why, what in the world is the matter with you?'

"'About two hours ago—yes,' he muttered, as if he had not heard me. 'Doctor, do tell me truly now, for the curiosity of the thing; what did you think of me on first entering the room, eh?—Feel inclined to laugh, or be shocked—which?'

"'Mr. N——, I really have no time for trifling, as I am particularly busy to-day. Do, I beg, be a little more explicit! Why have you sent for me? *What* is the matter with you?'

"'Why, God bless me, Doctor!' he replied, with an air of angry surprise in his manner which I never saw before, 'I think, indeed, it's *you* who are trifling! Have you lost your eyesight this morning? Do you pretend to say that you do not see I have undergone one of the most extraordinary alterations in appearance that the body of man is capable of—such as never was heard or read of before?"

"'Once more, Mr. N——,' I repeated in, a tone of calm astonishment, 'be so good as to be explicit. What are you raving about?'

"'Raving!—Egad, I think it's *you* who are raving, Doctor!' he answered; 'or you must wish to insult me! Do you pretend to tell me you do not see that *my head is turned?*' and he looked me in the face steadily and sternly.

"'Ha, ha, ha! Upon my honour, N——, I've been suspecting as much for this last five or ten minutes! I don't think a patient ever described his disease more accurately before!'

"'Don't mock me, Doctor ——,' replied N——, sternly. 'Pon my soul, I can't bear it! It's enough for me to endure the horrid sensations I do!'

"'Mr. N——, what *do* you'——

"'Why, confound it, Doctor ——! you'll drive me mad! Can't you see that the back of my head is in front, and my face looking backwards? Horrible!' I burst into loud laughter.

"'Doctor ——, its time for you and me to part—high time," said he, turning his face away from me. 'I'll let you know that I'll stand your nonsense no longer! I called you in to give me your advice, not to sit grinning like a baboon by my bedside! Once more—finally: Doctor ——, are you disposed to be serious and rational? If you are not, my man shall show you to the door the moment you please.' He said this in such a sober, earnest tone of indignation, that I saw he was fully prepared to carry his threat into execution. I determined, therefore, to humour him a little, shrewdly suspecting some temporary suspension of his sanity—not exactly *madness*—but at least some extraordinary hallucination. To adopt an expression which I have several times heard him use,—'I saw what o'clock it was, and set my watch to the time.'

"'Oh—well!—I see now how matters stand!—The fact is, I *did* observe the extraordinary posture of affairs you complain of, immediately I entered the room, but supposed you were joking with me, and twisting your head round in that odd way for the purpose of hoaxing me; so I resolved to wait and see which of us could play our parts in the farce longest! Why, good God! how's

all this, Mr. N—— ?—Is it then *really* the case?—Are you—in—in earnest—in having your head turned?'

"'*In earnest*, Doctor!' replied Mr. N——, in amazement. 'Why, do you suppose this happened by my own will and agency?—Absurd!'

"'Oh, no, no—most assuredly not—it is a phenomenon—hem! hem!—a phenomenon—not unfrequently attending on the *night-mare*,' I answered, with as good a grace as possible.

"'Pho, pho, Doctor!—Nonsense!—You must really think me a child, to try to mislead me with such stuff as that! I tell you again, I am in as sober possession of my senses as ever I was in my life; and, once more, I assure you, that, in truth and reality, my head is turned—literally so."

"'Well, well!—So I see!—It is, indeed, a very extraordinary case—a very unusual one; but I don't, by any means, despair of bringing all things round again!—Pray tell me how this singular and afflicting accident happened to you?'

(To be continued.)

Dr. RADCLIFFE.

(*Concluded from p.* 270.)

MANY other such extraordinary assertions and predictions are recorded. The young Duke of Gloucester was taken ill at Windsor during the celebration of his natal-day. Dr. Radcliffe was consulted; who, upon the first sight of the royal youth, frankly told the Princess of Denmark that he would die at a certain hour the very next day. And so he did. In 1703, when the Marquis of Blandford, only son of the Duke of Marlborough, was ill of the small-pox at Cambridge, the Duchess went in person to the doctor's house in London, to request his assistance; who being made acquainted with the details of the case, and its treatment by the Cambridge physician, said, "Madam, I shall only put you to a great expense to no purpose; for you have nothing to do for his lordship now but to send down an undertaker to superintend his funeral." No sooner had the Duchess returned to her apartments in St. James's Palace, than a messenger arrived from Cambridge with the mournful intelligence of his death. In like manner a message being sent from the Duke of Beaufort, who was ill at his seat at Badminton, requesting the immediate attendance of Dr. Radcliffe, he told the messenger "that there was no manner of occasion for his presence, since the Duke, his master, had died at a certain hour, which he named, on the preceding day. This the servant, on his return, found to be strictly true. So implicit a confidence did the Duchess of Beaufort entertain of the doctor's skill, that in her 85th year she declared it to be her firm persuasion that whilst he lived she would never die.

In 1708, Prince George of Denmark being reduced to the last extremity by a dropsical disorder, had been sent to Bath by the court physicians for the cure of it. At length the Queen, laying aside her personal objections to Dr. Radcliffe, who had formerly offended her Majesty, when indisposed, by saying she had only the vapours, sent for him in one of her royal carriages to consult him respecting the treatment and disorder of his Royal Highness. Radcliffe assured her Majesty that however common it might be for surgeons to apply caustics in cases of burning or scalding, it was irregular to physicians to attempt to expel watery humours by draughts of the same element. He promised, however, to prescribe for him such anodynes as should give him an easier passage out of this world; since he had been so tampered with, that nothing in the art of physic could keep his Royal Highness alive more than six days. Accordingly, to the inexpressible grief of the Queen, and the whole court, he expired on the sixth day following.

In 1714, he predicted his own death with the same confidence with which he spoke concerning that of others. To several of his friends he declared at the tavern before mentioned to which they usually resorted, it was high time for him to retire from the world, to make his will, and to set his house in order; for he had notices within which told him that his abode in this world could not be twelve months longer! He died at Carshalton, on the 1st of November following, being then in his 65th year. * * * * His body was conveyed to Oxford, from Carshalton, and interred with great solemnity in St. Mary's Church, near the north-west corner of the present organ-gallery.

To University College, where Dr. Radcliffe was first admitted, he gave 1100*l.* for increasing their exhibitions, and for general repairs: 5000*l.* more he left in his will for their new buildings; besides 600*l.* per annum for ever, to found two travelling fellowships: and other benefactions. The painted window, at the east end of the chapel there, was one of his first donations to that society. In 1706 he gave 200*l.* to be divided equally between the new church of All Saints, and Peckwater Quadrangle. He also gave the elegant little bronze figure of Mercury, which formerly stood in the centre of the reservoir in the great quadrangle Christ Church. But his two greatest works are, the foundation of the Library and Infirmary, called after his name. The Asylum on Headington-hill, at the end of Cheney-lane, has also received so much assistance from his trustees, that the committee have given it the name of the Radcliffe Asylum.

THE BLACK DROP.

THE Black Drop was originally prepared, upwards of a hundred years ago, by Edward Tunstall, a medical practitioner of Bishop-Auckland, in the county of Durham, and one of the Society of Friends. The recipe, passing into the possession of a near relative, John Walton of Shildon, who also prepared that medicine, was found amongst the papers of his brother, the late Edward Walton of Sunderland, and by the permission of my much respected friend Thomas Richardson, senior, of Bishopwearmouth, one of his executors, it is here inserted.

"Take half a pound of opium sliced; three pints of good verjuice; one ounce and a half of nutmegs; half an ounce of saffron. Boil them to a proper thickness, then add a quarter of a pound of sugar, and two spoonfuls of yeast. Set the whole in a warm place near the fire for six or eight weeks, then place it in the open air, until it becomes a sirup; lastly, decant, filter, and bottle it up, adding a little sugar to each bottle."

The above ingredients, agreeably to the experiment of a scientific friend, ought to yield, when properly made, about two pints of the strained liquor; one drop of which he calculated to be equal to three drops of the tincture of opium, prepared according to the London Pharmacopœia, and the effects of its exhibition also tended to show that this was perhaps as accurate an estimate as could be made. Probably this compound might be equally well prepared by a simpler process; and perhaps some other vegetable acid and aromatic might answer as good a purpose as the verjuice and nutmeg. The Black Drop is a most excellent preparation of opium, and highly deserving of a place in our pharmacopœias. From the quantity

of acid in its composition, it will often stay upon the stomach when other preparations will not, and in the hands of a judicious physician may therefore be usefully applied.

YELLOW FEVER.

(*Continued from p.* 268.)

During 12, 18, 24, or 36 hours, he found all these symptoms continue to increase, except the quickness and hardness of the pulse, which were not materially changed; and that they were then succeeded by general coldness, clammy sweats, and a greater or less degree of coma or delirium. Life in this case was lengthened out to sixty or ninety hours from the attack. A short interval of reason perhaps took place, the patient considered himself better, and flattered himself for the moment with the hope of recovery; but a fit, as sudden and as unexpected as the first, came on, during which he rolled his eyes dreadfully, foamed at the mouth, and threw out and pulled back his extremities in violent, and quick alternate succession. Dr. Chisholme observed, that in general the patient expired in this fit; but in a few instances he recovered from it, and continued rational for a short time, when another has ensued and carried him off.

Dr. Rush says, the disease appeared with different symptoms in different people: he observed the premonitory signs of it were, costiveness, a dull pain in the right side, defect of appetite, flatulency, perverted taste, heat in the stomach, giddiness or pain in the head, a dull, watery, brilliant yellow, or red eye, dim and imperfect vision, a hoarseness, or slight sore throat, low spirits, a disposition to sweat at nights, or after moderate exercise, or a sudden suppression of night sweats. More or less of these symptoms frequently continued for two or three days before the patients were confined: and, in some they continued during the whole time of the prevalence of the fever in the city of Philadelphia, without producing the disease. Many went to bed in good health, and awoke in the night with a chilly fit; many rose in the morning after natural and regular sleep, and were seized at their work, or after a walk, with a sudden and unexpected attack.

He observes, that it frequently came on with a weak pulse, and often without any preternatural frequency or quickness; and that, in some instances, it was so low as not to be perceived without pressing hard on the artery; in some cases, the pulse intermitted, and these intermissions occurred in several persons who were infected, but who were not confined by fever; in others, there was a more than ordinary slowness of the pulse, which was now and then accompanied with a dilated pupil of the eye. Hemorrhages happened at the commencement of the disorder, chiefly at the nose and uterus; and as it advanced, the discharge of blood became more universal, and then issued from the gums, ears, stomach, bowels, and urinary passage.

Many complained of a dull pain in the region of the liver, but few felt any soreness to the touch, or pain at the pit of the stomach; in some, a determination of blood took place to the lungs, but the brain was chiefly affected with morbid congestion, which was indicated by the suffusion of blood in the face, redness of the eyes, dilatation of the pupils, pain in the head, hemorrhages from the nose and ears, by sickness or vomiting, and by an almost universal costive state of the bowels.

With respect to the secretions and excretions, there appeared to be a preternatural flow of bile, which was discharged from the stomach and bowels in large quantities, and of very different qualities and colours, being in some cases yellow, and in others black.

The urine was sometimes plentiful and of a high colour; sometimes it was pale, and at others it was small in quantity and turbid; moreover sweats of a yellow colour and highly offensive to the smell often broke out. On the first and second day the tongue was invariably moist and white; but as the disease advanced, it became red, and put on a smooth shining appearance towards the close, a dry black streak appeared in its middle, which gradually extended to every part of it.

The effects produced on the nervous system were different, according as the fever affected the brain, the muscles, the nerves, or the mind. In a few instances, apoplexy was induced, which usually proved fatal; tremors of the limbs, and twitching of the tendons, were common; delirium was a frequent symptom, but many passed through the disease without the least derangement of ideas; in some cases, the pain in the head was acute and distressing; and the stomach towards the close was affected with burning or spasmodic pain of the most severe nature.

(*To be continued.*)

RULES FOR ASCERTAINING THE PURITY OF CHEMICAL PREPARATIONS, EMPLOYED FOR THE PURPOSES OF MEDICINE, AND OTHER USES.

(*Continued from p.* 262.)

Red Sulphuretted Oxide of Mercury—Hydrargyri Sulphuretum Rubrum—Factitious Cinnabar.

This substance is frequently adulterated with red lead, which may be detected by the foregoing rules. Chalk and dragon's blood are also sometimes mixed with it. The chalk is discovered by an effervescence on adding acetic acid, and by pouring oxalic acid into the acetous solution. Dragon's blood will be left unvolatilized when the sulphuret is exposed to heat, and may be detected by its giving a colour to alcohol, when the cinnabar is digested with it.

Black Sulphuretted Oxide of Mercury—Ethiop's Mineral.

The mercury and sulphur in this preparation should be so intimately combined, that no globules of the metal can be discovered by a magnifier; and that, when rubbed on gold, no white stain may be communicated. The admixture of ivory-black may be detected by its not being wholly volatilized by heat, or, by boiling with alkali to extract the sulphur, and afterwards exposing the residuum to heat, which ought entirely to evaporate.

Yellow Oxide or Subsulphate of Mercury—Hydrargyrus Vitriolatus—Turbith Mineral.

This preparation should be wholly evaporable; and, when digested with distilled water, the water ought not to take up any sulphuric acid, which will be discovered by muriate of barytes.

Fused Nitrate of Silver, Argenti Nitras—Lunar Caustic.

The most probable admixture with this substance is nitrate of copper, derived from the employment of an impure silver. In moderate proportion this is of little importance. It may be ascertained by solution in water and adding an excess of ammonia, which will detect copper by a deep blue colour.

The watery solution of lunar caustic, when mingled with one of common salt, should give a copious curdy precipitate.

"Eleanor." ℞ Decoct. Aloes Comp. ℥iv. Tinct. Lyttæ ℥iij. Aquæ Pulegii ℥iijss. M. Sumat cochl. ij larg. bis quotidie. Feet in hot water nightly a few days before the next visitation. Let a handful or two of Pennyroyal leaves be put into a vessel, with about two quarts of boiling water, the steam from which to be applied locally. Eleanor will understand this. Write again if necessary.

"G. W. O." has done right. The following will soon prove beneficial:—℞ Tinct. Ferri Muriat. ℥iss. Infus. Gent. Co. ℥vij. Tinct. Lyttæ ℥iij. Tinct. Cinchon. Co. ℥ss. M. Sumat cochl. ij larg. bis quotidie. Make use of cold water as a local application. Write again.

"Elizabeth H." Continue as before, she is better, and will be restored. Write again.

"L. Nerton." The Office has been removed from Chancery-lane to No. 4, Broadway, Ludgate-hill, at least six months, where the Editor can be consulted at the periods stated in the *Notice*. He declines visiting this patient at his residence, as the fee must be at *least* doubled.

"Ellen Ashman" ought to have stated age, whether married, and if so, what family, with such other particulars as a medical man should know before he prescribes. Write again, when the case shall be well considered.

"A Porter to a Cheesemonger" shall be put to rights, but it will take two months; after which the change alluded to may be adopted. Take one tablespoonful of the following mixture twice daily in water:—℞ Tinct. Ferri Muriat. ℥ss. Infus. Gent. Comp. ℥vij. Tinct. Cinchon. Comp. ℥ss. M.; and regulate the bowels by taking two of *The Doctor's Stomach Pills* as occasion may require. Write again in three weeks.

"Alfonso" must continue *The Doctor's Stomach Pills*. "The boils" increasing is one proof of their efficacy. In a week or two *The Doctor's Chemical Wash Balls* will be found beneficial.

"Peregrine Baron." The fits of this correspondent's cousin are epileptic. A cure is promised if the following directions be steadily pursued. Commence with *The Doctor's Balsam of Lupuline*, and for the first three weeks take *three* teaspoonfuls twice daily. The condition of the bowels to be watched, and any irregularity to be rectified by taking as necessity indicates two of *The Doctor's Stomach Pills* on going to bed. Write again in three weeks. Mr. Heywood is agent for Manchester.

"A. Z. Z. A. B." The compound alluded to will be of no use, the articles are obsolete. An improvement has evidently taken place under our management, therefore by all means continue. A recovery is promised in time. Write again in three weeks.

"Margaret Honeysett" has acted perfectly right. Less than as many shillings under our advice will cure. ℞ Bals. Copaibæ, Tinct. Benzoin, *ää.* ℥vj. Tinct. Lyttæ ℥iij. M. Sumat cochl. j parv. bis vel ter die in aquâ. Cold water locally. Write again. M. H. ought not to have given her residence.

"A Constant Subscriber." ℞ Infus. Gent. Comp. ℥vij. Conf. Opii ℈j. Tinct. Catechu ℥vj. M. Sumat cochl. ij larg. bis quotidie. Should this medicine produce a confined state of the bowels, take two of *The Doctor's Stomach Pills*, as occasion may require.

"A. K." and his lady are quite welcome. Our best advice can at all times be commanded by Subscribers to this Journal.

"A Cure" is labouring under spasmodic stricture, and until this be ascertained (by an interview) we beg to decline prescribing. Call on the Editor No. 4, Broadway, on Friday evening or Sunday morning next.

"X. W." Apply one or two fingers to the part, there keep them, and cough somewhat forcibly. Ascertain whether much force from within be directed to the fingers, if so, and a little bulbous enlargement continues, the case is hernia, for which a truss must be applied; if not, the case is a common enlargement of one or more glands of the part, for which apply Emp. Ammon. c. Hydrargyro; and take a three-grain blue-pill every night for ten days, then write again.

"W. Whitechapel" is informed that quite as much confidence may be reposed in the *Editor of the Doctor* as in Sir Astley Cooper. Why therefore object to see him from a "secret motive." We thank him for the *promise* of the fee he alludes to for a private letter. He is invited to our office, No. 4, Broadway.

"Y. Z. Z." Syringe the ear every night and morning with warm soap-and-water, and after each time eight or ten drops of the following to be dropt into the ear, to be there detained by a dossil of lint. ℞ Tinct. Benzoin Comp. ℥j. Spt. Ammon. Comp. ℥j. Ol. Amygdalæ ℥iij. M. Keep the bowels regular by taking two of *The Doctor's Stomach Pills* every night for a fortnight, after which write again.

NOTICE TO PATIENTS.

Those patients who consult the Editor at his Chambers more than once, are requested to bring with them at least *the last* prescription, to prevent the necessity of commencing *de novo* the investigation of their cases. By omitting to bring the prescription, they cause the time of each succeeding patient to be encroached upon. In a *first* case, the Editor will never prescribe until it is thoroughly understood, if even an hour be occupied in the examination; but after this investigation, on subsequent visits, the sight of the former prescription immediately recals to his mind all the circumstances of the case, and much time is thereby saved.

Consultations.—The Editor may be personally consulted by patients requiring his advice, at *The Doctor* Office, every MONDAY and FRIDAY from 5 till 7 o'clock. There are separate waiting rooms, and the consultation fee is 2s. 6d.

For the accommodation of working people the Editor will in future attend at the Office on SUNDAY MORNINGS, from 10 to 12 o'clock. The consultation fee will then be 1s. 6d. But to the very poor, advice will be given gratis.

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